

HUMAN SERVICES - OTHER

Agency 303

Department of Health

Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2005-07 Expenditure Authority	1,308.5	128,441	749,863	878,304
Supplemental Changes				
Local Nutrition Services Reimbursement			660	660
Additional Vaccine Purchase			3,574	3,574
National Healthcare Practitioners Databases	3.8		960	960
Pandemic Flu Monitoring	.5	100		100
Disaster Preparedness Outreach		300		300
Health Professions Credentialing	2.9		325	325
New Vaccine Purchase			1,469	1,469
Washington Health Professional Services Staffing	1.1		163	163
SmartBuy		(1,105)		(1,105)
Pension Plan 1 Unfunded Liabilities			599	599
Classification Revisions		11	16	27
Mileage Rate Adjustments		53	143	196
Central Service Agency Charges		74	183	257
Federal Funding Adjustment	21.6		9,298	9,298
Local Funding Adjustment			4,005	4,005
Subtotal - Supplemental Changes	29.8	(567)	21,395	20,828
Total Proposed Budget	1,338.3	127,874	771,258	899,132
Difference	29.8	(567)	21,395	20,828
Percent Change	2.3%	(0.4)%	2.9%	2.4%

SUPPLEMENTAL CHANGES

Local Nutrition Services Reimbursement

Effective July 1, 2006, the per client funding provided to local public health, non-profit, and community health care agencies for Women, Infant and Children (WIC) nutrition services is increased from \$112 to \$116 per client per year. (General Fund-Federal)

Additional Vaccine Purchase

Funding is provided for additional doses of varicella vaccine needed because of increasing immunization rates for this vaccination (approximately a 10 percent increase between 2003 and 2004) and for medical inflation costs associated with all routinely recommended childhood vaccines. (Health Services Account-State)

National Healthcare Practitioners Databases

The Department's Health Professions Quality Assurance Program (HPQA) licenses health care professionals in Washington State. To respond to the increase in the number of health care professionals moving into Washington State, HPQA will begin checking the Federal Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank to determine if action has been taken against an applicant's license in another state. This action will decrease the risk of the department unknowingly licensing a practitioner who has a history of complaints or malpractice. (Health Professions Account-State)

Pandemic Flu Monitoring

Additional resources are provided to increase the state's ability to monitor and detect pandemic flu activity. These resources will help improve surveillance for unusual types of influenza, perform rapid molecular testing to identify influenza strains, and help develop advanced influenza tracking and reporting systems.

Disaster Preparedness Outreach

Funding is provided to better educate the public on issues related to natural and epidemiological disasters. The campaign will develop, translate, print, and distribute a disaster preparedness guide for individuals and families that will include a letter from state leaders asking people to do what they can to personally prepare for disasters.

Health Professions Credentialing

The Health Professions Quality Assurance Program issues credentials to health care professionals in Washington State. To help ensure that Washington citizens have safe encounters with healthcare providers, funding is provided to increase HPQA's ability to promptly issue credentials in the high-volume nursing and health care assistant licensing areas. (Health Professions Account-State)

New Vaccine Purchase

The State Board of Health has recently added varicella to the required regimen of vaccinations needed for school entry. In addition, the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has added two other vaccines, meningococcal and tetanus diphtheria acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap), to the routinely recommended childhood vaccine schedule. To keep Washington's universal vaccination distribution system current, funding is provided to purchase approximately 250,000 additional vaccinations. (Health Services Account-State)

Washington Health Professional Services Staffing

The Washington Health Professional Services (WHPS) was created in 1990 as a multi-disciplinary monitoring program for health professionals whose ability to practice is impaired by chemical dependencies. WHPS has experienced a steadily growing caseload of impaired providers. Current workloads for case managers are too high to adequately serve the needs of clients, limiting the full effectiveness of the program and limiting access to the program. Additional resources are provided to reduce the average caseload from 194 to 127 (per worker). (Health Professions Account-State)

Mileage Rate Adjustments

The U.S. Treasury Department raised its allowable reimbursement rate for automobile mileage to \$.485, effective September 15, 2005 through December 2005. Effective January 2006, the rate becomes \$.445 per mile. Funding is provided for the difference between the \$.375 per mile reimbursement rate set in the 2005-07 Biennium and the new rates for the first year of the biennium. (General Fund-State, various other funds)

Federal Funding Adjustment

Federal expenditure authority and related staff are increased to reflect ten continuing grants that have received additional funding as well as two new grant awards. (General Fund-Federal)

Local Funding Adjustment

Local expenditure authority for the Department of Health is increased to match projected local revenue. (General Fund-Private/Local)